(c) will any monitoring mechanism be evolved for periodic due diligence test to enable corrective action being taken to meet the targets?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SRHI E.V.K.S. ELANGOVAN): (a) to (c) In course of the Keynote Address delivered at the 30th Anniversary of the US-India Business Council in Washington D.C on 1st June, 2005, the Commerce Minister said:

'By 2035 I think that India's population would have stabilized at about one-and-a-half billion. We will certainly have achieved 100% literacy and I am confident that we would have provided a standard of living for our people comparable at least to what developed countries enjoy today. Our focus then will no longer be so much on 'fast' growth but rather on sustaining the fabric that enables us to remain a' free market democracy'.'

It was not so much a statement of policy made by the Commerce Minister, as an expression of his vision of what India would be 30 year hence (which was the topic of the Address). Therefore the question of strategies, time frame or monitoring mechanism do not arise.

Labour Laws by States to attract FDI

†3002. SHRI VEDPRAKASH P. GOYAL: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Central Government are considering any proposal for providing the right for formulating separate labour law to the State Government so that investment particularly Foreign Direct Investment can be attracted;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) by when, the final decision is likely to be taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI E.V.K.S. ELANGOVAN): (a) to (c) The Government is not considering any proposal for providing the right for formulating separate labour laws to the State Government to attract investment. As the subject 'Labour' figures in the Concurrent List, the State Government

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

are competent to enact a law, subject to other provisions in the Constitution.

Action Plan for small and medium scale industries

3003. SHRI N.R. GOVINDARAJAR: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have formulated any action plan for the small, medium scale industries in the country.

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the time by when a final decision is likely to be taken in this regard along with its likely benefits?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI E.V.K.S. ELANGOVAN): (a) to (c) As on date there is no defnition for medium enterprise/ unit. However, the Government introduced a Bill, *viz.*,"Small and Medium Enterprises Development Bill, 2005" in the Lok Sabha on 12th May, 2005. The said Bill *interalia* provides a definition for medium manufacturing enterprise and medium service enterprise and also addresses the issues concerning promoting and development of small and medium industries. In addition, a package for promotion of small enterprises sector is under consideration of the Government which, *interalia*, has provision for credit support, fiscal incentives, technological and marketing assistance, entrepreneurship development, infrastructural development, etc.

Setting up cashew nuts progeny orchard in Karnataka

3004. DR. VIJAY MALLYA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether in view of keeping the high export potential of cashew nuts, the State Government of Karnataka has submitted any proposal to the Central Government for setting up a cashew progeny orchard in Karnataka at a total cost of Rs. 43 lakhs; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and when is the proposal likely to be considered for approval?